

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A deformable mat formed of at least one web comprising:
at least one reinforcing substance and at least one thermoplastic substance, these substances being in a form of a member selected from at least one continuous yarn, chopped yarns and combinations thereof, said at least one reinforcing substance and said at least one thermoplastic substance being bonded together such that the mat has an elongation at break in all directions of at least 50%,

wherein said mat has a weight per unit area from 1500 to 3000 g/m², and
wherein said mat has a mean thickness of approximately 3.5 to 6.5 mm.

18. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, wherein the mat has an elongation at break in all directions from 100% to 150%.

19. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, wherein the yarns comprise filaments of a reinforcing substance and filaments of a thermoplastic substance.

20. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 19, wherein the yarns comprise at least 50% by weight of commingled yarns.

21. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 20, wherein the commingled yarns consist of glass filaments and filaments of one or more thermoplastic organic substance.

22. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, wherein said at least one reinforcing substance represents at least 10% by weight of said mat.

23. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, wherein said mat includes chopped yarns, said chopped yarns having a length less than 100 mm.

24. (Previously Presented) The mat as claimed in claim 17, having a porosity ranging from 65 to 80%.

25.-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A deformable mat comprising:

at least one reinforcement substance in the form of a first yarn, said first yarn consisting of reinforcement fibers; and

at least one thermoplastic substance in the form of a second yarn, said second yarn consisting of thermoplastic fibers,

wherein said reinforcement substance and thermoplastic substance are stitch bonded by a binding thread that is finer than said yarn of said at least one reinforcement substance and said yarn of said at least one thermoplastic substance,

wherein said mat has a porosity ranging from 65 to 80%, and

wherein said mat is formed by depositing of said first and said second yarns on a moving substrate to form a web, and wherein said first and second yarns are not commingled yarns.

35. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 34, wherein said binding thread has a linear density between 40 and 300 dtex and is selected from a reinforcing substance and a thermoplastic organic substance.

36. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 34, wherein said at least one reinforcement substance and said at least one thermoplastic substance are in the form of a member selected from chopped yarns, continuous yarns and combinations thereof.

37. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 36, wherein said deformable mat contains at least one continuous yarn in the form of superposed loops.

38. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 36, wherein said mat has an elongation at break in all directions from 100 to 150%.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 34, wherein said at least one reinforcing substance represents from 30 to 85% by weight of said mat.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) A deformable mat comprising:
a first yarn including a reinforcing substance; and
a second yarn including a thermoplastic substance,
wherein said first and second yarns are a combination of chopped yarns and continuous yarns,
wherein said mat is formed by depositing of said first and said second yarns on a moving substrate to form a web.

43. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said at least one reinforcing substance represents from 30 to 85% by weight of said mat.

44. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said deformable mat contains at least one continuous yarn in the form of loops.

45.-47. (Canceled)

48. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said mat has a porosity from 65 to 80%.

49. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said first yarn and said second yarn are bonded by exposure to pressurized water jets.

50. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said first yarn and said second yarn are bonded by corona discharge.

51. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said first yarn and said second yarn are bonded by needle punching.

52. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said first yarn and said second yarn are bonded by an adhesive.

53. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 42, wherein said mat has a weight per unit area from 1500 to 3000 g/m².

54. (Previously Presented) The deformable mat of claim 34, wherein said first and second yarns are stitch bonded by a yarn having a linear density between 40 and 300 dtex.